



FROM THE EXPLOSIVE NEW ANIMATED TV SERIES!

GARGOYLES

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

2
MAR



GARGOYLES

ALWAYS DARKEST BEFORE THE DAWN

ARE WE
HAVING FUN
YET?

C'MON,
GUYS--IT'LL ONLY
TAKE A MINUTE.
JUST HELP ME TEST
THIS TRACKER...

...AND I'LL
NEVER ASK ANOTHER
FAVOR AGAIN IF I
LIVE TO BE A MILLION.

I WANT THAT
IN WRITING,
LEX.

FROM THE PERSONAL
DIARY OF ELISA MAZA,
N.Y.P.D.:

I don't know why it STILL
strikes me as FUNNY.
And considering what I'm
going through now
BECAUSE of it...what am
I LAUGHING about?!

But somehow I can't
help SMILING when I
imagine that early-
morning scene as
GOLIATH DESCRIBED
it to me...

I mean, a THOUSAND-
YEAR-OLD GARGOYLE
who's into HIGH-TECH, big-
time — something about
that really cracks me up...

Written by MARTIN PASKO
Pencilled by AMANDA CONNER
Inked by ALBERTO SAICHANN
(Pg. 1-11)
PALMIOTTI Bros.
(Pg. 12-22)
Colored by GREG WRIGHT
Lettered by JOHN COSTANZA
& JON BABCOCK
Edited by HILDA MESNIK
Editor in chief CARL POTTS



MEANWHILE:

HUDSON...?

CAN IT WAIT,
LAD? THE COM-
MERCIAL'S
JUST ABOUT
OVER.

IAN HYDE-WHITNEY
'ERE, BACK WITH A SPECIAL
EDITION OF "AMERICA
EXPOSED"...


...EXAMINING THE
QUESTIONABLE ACTIVITIES
OF XANATO'S ENTERPRISES.

...THE FAR-FLUNG
EMPIRE OF THIS MAN-
DAVID XANATOS...


...A CONVICTED
FELON!...

"...BEHIND THIS
SCENE IN NEW YORK
HARBOR 28 YEARS
AGO!"


...WHO WAS NEVER-
THELESS FREE TO CALL
THE SHOTS...



"THIS EXCLUSIVE NEWS-
FOOTAGE CLEARLY
SHOWS XANATH'S
AUTOMATED CHOPPERS..."



...WHOSE ROBOTIC
EQUIPMENT REPAIRED THIS
TRAWLER AND SENT IT
ON ITS WAY.



ABOARD THE TRAWLER
WAS ALLEGEDLY CONCEALED
SOME SORT OF RESEARCH
LABORATORY.


"ALLEGEDLY"?!!

HOWEVER, THE
VESSEL WAS WELL
OUT TO SEA AND
BEYOND THE REACH
OF LOCAL AUTHOR-
ITIES...

...BEFORE THE
NYPD COULD REACH THE
SCENE IN FORCE. SO FAR,
NO LAW ENFORCEMENT
AGENCY HAS BEEN ABLE
TO IMPROBATE THE SHIP'S
ALLEGED OWNERS...


...GEN-U-TECH, A
DIVISION OF XANATH'S--
IN THE LABORATORY'S
ALLEGED COVERT
ACTIVITIES.

* NO, DEFINITELY--
AS SHOWN IN
GARGOYLES #1!
--HILLY



WELL, NEVER MIND,
HUDSON. IT WASN'T URGENT.
I WAS JUST WONDERING
ABOUT OUR YOUNG TRIO...

UP NEXT...



WHAT? OH,
SORRY, GOLIATH.
DIDN'T MEAN TO
BE RUDE.

HAVEN'T SEEN THE
LADS SINCE SUNDOWN.
THEY WERE OFF IN A FLASH--
SOMETHING ABOUT WANTING
TO "CHECK OUT THE
CLUBS"...

THANKS A LOT, LEX--IT'S
ALMOST TIME TO TURN
AROUND AND HEAD HOME....!

YEAH, THE
SUN 'LL BE UP
SOON!

AND ALL THIS TIME,
WE COULD'VE BEEN
SCOPIN' OUT THE
ACTION AT THAT
CLUB I WAS TELLIN'
YOU GUYS ABOUT--

RIGHT DOWN THERE--
ACROSS THE STREET
FROM THAT CHURCH.

"SACRILEGE"?
WHERE?

GREAT, WE
COULD'VE BEEN
PARTYING--BUT, NO...
WE HAD TO SPEND
ALL NIGHT HUMOR-
ING LEX...!

LOOK, GLASSES, I KNOW
WE NEED TO TALK... BUT NOT
NOW, OKAY?-- NOT IN
FRONT OF MY LADY.

GET REAL,
KID, YOU'VE BEEN
DECKING ME
FOR DAYS.

SACRILEGE

YOU HAD TO KNOW
WE'D LEAN ON YOU IF
YOU SHOWED YOUR
FACE HERE...

Y'KNOW, I THINK
MAYBE SWICK HERE IS
GETTING SOFT--ADVANC-
ING YOU AGAINST YOUR
COMMISSION LIKE
HE DID.

NOW WE HEAR YOU
HAVE BEEN MOVING OUR
MERCHANDISE-- ONLY
WE'RE NOT GETTING OUR
TAKE. WHAT'S THE STORY,
PRICE?

YOU LEAVE LO HAYVE
OUT OF THIS-- SHE DON'T
HAVE NOTHIN' TO DO
WITH IT!

WHATEVER, WE
DON'T GIVE A RAT'S
PATOOT WHERE IT'S
GOIN'-- THE LADY,
THE TRACK, OR
UP YOUR NOSE.

ALL WE
KNOW IS IT'S
NOT GOING
WHERE IT'S
SUPPOSED
TO--

-- IN MR.
DRAGON'S
POCKET.

-- THE
"LADY" HAVE
EXPENSIVE
TASTE?



WELL, YOU HEARD WRONG.
I AIN'T STIFFIN'
NOBODY.

BUSINESS
IS SLOW. HEY,
THIS STUFF
COSTS...!

I CAN'T HIT UP
JUST ANY KID. I
PRACTICALLY HAVE
TO GO TO SUTTON
PLACE TO FIND
GUYS WITH THAT
KINDA CASH...

AW, NO...
NOT YOU,
PRICE...!



YOU'RE BREAKIN' OUR
HEARTS, KID.

BESIDES, WE DON'T
SET THE QUOTAS--MR.
DRAGON DOES. YOU
KNOW THAT.



I DON'T BELIEVE
THIS...! YOU, PRICE?
OF ALL THE GUYS I
KNOW, YOU'RE THE
LAST ONE I'D
FIGURE WOULD BE
DEALIN'...!



DON'T SWEAT IT, BABE. IT AIN'T DRESS.

IT'S GUNS.



BUT REAL SPECIAL GUNS--
EXPERIMENTAL GUNS--
REAL HIGH-TECH PUPPIES
LIKE THIS ONE.

THERE'S SERIOUS
BACKS IN SUPPLYING THIS
KIND OF FIREPOWER--WHICH
IS WHY WE'VE GOT A MAJOR
PROBLEM HERE.

AND THE
FACT THAT THE
"LADY" NOW
KNOWS WAY
TOO MUCH
ABOUT OUR
BUSINESS.



YEAH,
LIKE I SAY...
MAJOR
PROBLEMS.

THE KIND
WE'D BETTER
SETTLE OUTSIDE,
YOU FOLLOW ME?





I DUNNO-- MUST BE SOME OF THEM GAR--WHATCHACALLEMS FOLKS BEEN TALKIN' 'BOUT...!



The shot went clear THROUGH Price and all the way across the street.

BLAM BLAM BLAM

PRICE!

The poor kid never had a CHANCE.





THERE! --
IN FRONT OF
THE CLUB...

TOO BAD
THERE'S NOTHING
WE CAN DO--

HEY, CHECK
THIS OUT--

-- DAWN WILL
BE HERE ANY
SECOND NOW!

NOT NOW,
BROADWAY--WE'VE
GOT TO FIND PLACES
TO ROOST!--

I only wish it hadn't
been so much LATER
that I found out what
Broadway's CURIOSITY
led him to do NEXT...

...He
GOUGED OUT
the
CORKSCREW
-shaped
BULLET from
the point
where it
LODGED -- in
the church's
MASONRY.



I never DID find out
what happened to the
victim's GIRLFRIEND.

YO, GLASSES--
YA WANT I SHOULD
STUFF A RAG DOWN
'ER T'ROAT OR
SUMPIN'?

JUST GET HER
IN THE CAR AND
TAKE 'ER BACK TO
THE PENTHOUSE.

WE'LL LET
DRAGON DECIDE
WHAT TO DO WITH
HER.



YOU SAW TED
MURKIN--

--SO NOW
YOU GET TO
DIE.

LISSEN, WITH
YOUR CHEESE-
BALL LIFE, I'M
DOIN' YOU A
FAVOR. SO
QUIT LOOKIN'
AT ME LIKE
THAT.

I'LL MAKE IT QUICK--
AN' EASY-- I GOT A
HEART. I GOT
COMPASSION.

I'M
A REGULAR ANGEL
OF MERCY.

THE ONLY THING I
AIN'T GOT IS THE WINGS.



Oh, he GOT the WINGS, all right.

Right in the FACE.

OKAY, SO MAYBE THERE IS SOMETHING WE CAN DO.

YAAHHH!
WHAT THE DEVIL--?!

FORGET APPEARANCES, SLIMEBALL--

--THE DEVIL HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS.

BUT, THEN, APPEARANCES ARE DECEIVING, AREN'T THEY?

I MEAN, YOU'RE THE ONE WITH THE HAND-SOME FACE AND THE NICE-LOOKING CLOTHES--

--BUT WHAT YOU DID TO THAT BOY IS UGLIER THAN I'LL EVER BE!

SHRAAK



PULL AROUND
BACK. WE'LL
TAKE THE
FREIGHT
ELEVATOR.

GLASSES!
DID YOU
SEE THAT
THING--?

SHUT...
UP... AND
GET... IN!

"WOULDN'T WANT
THE RESPECTABLE
GUESTS OF THE
PARK MANOR
HOTEL--"

"...TO SEE ANYTHING
THAT'D LOOK UN-
SAVORY, IF YOU
KNOW WHAT I
MEAN."



WHILE, LESS THAN
TWO BLOCKS AWAY...

I JUST WISH
LEX HAD COME
UP HERE WITH
US, THAT'S ALL.

RELAX.
I'M SURE HE'S
FOUND A SAFE
PLACE TO
ROOST--

--BEFORE THE
SUNLIGHT TURNS
HIM TO ST--



I REALLY APPRECIATE YOU COMIN' OUT LIKE THIS SO EARLY IN THE MORNING, Mr. BURNETT.



ESPECIALLY SINCE MAYBE I'M NOT ONE OF Mr. XANATOS'S FAVORITE PEOPLE.

I'M NOT HERE TO BOND WITH YOU, DRACON--

--JUST TO PICK UP THE TEST SUBJECT.

YOU'RE LOOKING AT HER.

NAME'S LAWANDA OR VONDA OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

SAYS SHE'S 20, BUT I FIGURE IT'S MORE LIKE 16.



RAN AWAY FROM HOME. NEVER BEEN REPORTED MISSING.

GOOD. THEN SHE WON'T BE MISSED.



YEAH... AND IT'S NOT A MURDER RAP IF THERE'S NO BODY.

HEY, I REALLY APPRECIATE A MAN OF YOUR IMPORTANCE IN Mr. X'S ORGANIZATION--



Y'MEAN, WITH ALL THE TALK ON THE STREET...



DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF, ANTHONY. IF IT WEREN'T IMPERATIVE TO KEEP THIS AMONG AS FEW PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE--



...ABOUT GEN-U-TECH NEEDING HUMAN GUINEA PIGS...?

I'd been up nearly 22 HOURS STRAIGHT when CAPTAIN CHAVEZ handed MATT and me the "Sacrilege" shooting...



Okay, A PONY-TAIL. WHAT ELSE?

I DIDN'T NOTICE, Okay? I WAS SCARED... AN' THEN THERE WAS THEM... THINGS I TOLDJA ABOUT...

YEAH, RIGHT --THE FLYING MONSTERS.

ONE WITNESS. AND SHE HALLUCINATES. WHY ME?

I was so BEAT, I nearly forgot to strike my SKEPTICAL pose. Which would've been MOST un-cool — what with the Captain WATCHING and all.



I GOT FIFTY BUCKS SAYS WHEN YOU RUN THAT SKETCH, HE'LL COME UP ONE OF TONY DRAGON'S BOYS.

BUT DID YOU HEAR WHAT SHE SAID--

--ABOUT THE GARGOYLES...?

YEAH, BUT I'LL DENY IT IF ASKED.

I JUST GOT WORD: THE KID FLAT-LINED IN THE E.R. AT St. VINCE'S--

--WHICH MAKES IT MURDER-ONE, AND OTHER THAN THE DESCRIPTION, YOU'VE GOT JACK.

UNLESS SHE TELLS THE D.A. SHE'S DATING ELVIS--

--WE'LL PRETEND SHE'S A CREDIBLE WIT--?!

BLUESTONE?

HERE... SIT DOWN.

IT'S ONLY ANOTHER HEADACHE.

THE DOC SAYS IT'S NORMAL--AFTER A CONCUSSION.*

FOUR DAYS OF X-RAYS, AND ALL HE DOES IS PRESCRIBE PAINKILLERS.

BUT YOU AREN'T TAKING THEM...?

*IN ISH#1!
--KILDY

CAN'T. NOT ON DUTY. THEY KNOCK ME OUT.

IT'S CRENSHAW, MATT--DREW CRENSHAW. THE ONE THEY CALL "SNICK"--I'M SURE OF IT.

YOUR PARTNER WILL FIND THAT ENCOURAGING, MAZA...

...BUT IT WON'T BE MATT THIS TIME.

HE'S ON SICK LEAVE--TWO WEEKS MINIMUM--EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

HEY...

AND WE WON'T BE SEEING HIM AROUND HERE TILL HE'S PAIN-AND-MEDICATION-FREE... WILL WE?

BUT...

I SAID "WILL WE?"

WHAT ABOUT THESE TWO?

SURE. WHY NOT?

OVER HERE WITH THAT!

YOU'D THINK THAT THE NEW OWNERS ARE GONNA MAKE ENOUGH OFF THE STRIP-MALL THEY'RE PUTTIN' UP...

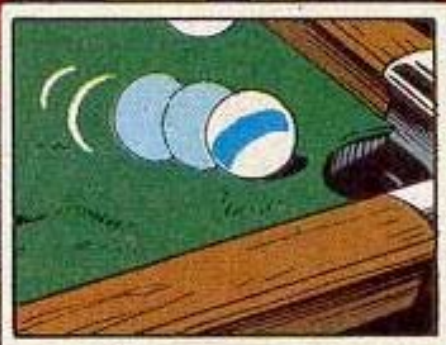
... THEY GOTTA SELL OFF THE GEWGAWLS, TOO?

WHAT KINDA PEOPLE BUY STUFF LIKE THIS, ANYWAY?

MAYBE THEY MAKE BIRD-BATHS OR SUMPIN' OUT OF 'EM. DO I KNOW?

OKAY, YOU GUYS CAN START PLANTING THE CHARGES. WE'RE OUTTA HERE.

MID-AFTERNOON...



N.Y.P.D., Mr. CRENSHAW.
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST.



FREEZE!



BLAMM



LATE AFTERNOON-- THE
EYRIE BUILDING...

I TRUST,
Dr. PHOBOS,
THAT GEN-U-TECH
HAS RECEIVED
THE... "SHIP-
MENT".

THE NEW...
TEST-SUBJECT?
YESSIR-- Mr. BURNETT
HAS JUST DELIVERED
IT-- ah, HER.

AND I
SHOULDN'T WISH
TO SEEM
UNGRATEFUL,
Mr. XANATOS...

...BUT MIGHT
I REMIND YOU
THAT FURTHER
HUMAN SUBJECTS--

--WELL, SIR,
THEY'RE SIMPLY
UNNECESSARY.

YOU MAY RECALL
BLOOD AND TISSUE
SAMPLES RECOVERED
FROM THE LAB WRECKAGE..?

Well, THEY
HAVE PRODUCED
PRECISELY THE
PRODUCTS I'D
HOPED FOR.

REST
ASSURED THAT
EVERY TARGET
OF THE MEDUSA
PROJECT WILL
BE MET.

WE EXPECT,
WITHIN THE MONTH,
TO HAVE BRED NOT
ONLY WHATEVER
HUMAN SUBJECTS
WE MAY NEED...

... BUT OUR
OWN GARGOYLE
AS WELL.



But at that point there was
NOTHING more I could DO...

...except WAIT for
SUNDOWN to make it
POSSIBLE to RESUME
my investigation.

I didn't know
THEN that the
REAL "fun"
was just
BEGINNING.


Not even
LEX can
say for
sure
HOW it
happened —
he was
STONE
at the
time...

...but DRAGON'S
BUTLER evidently
noticed something
ODD in the STATU-
ARY of the pent-
house TERRACE.

Like, WHERE did
this SCULPTURE
with a TAIL
come from...

...and why was it
wearing a DIGITAL
WATCH?


Something that didn't REGISTER
at first, but must have NAGGED
at him SUBCONSCIOUSLY.



Much as I was ENJOYING my TEMPORARY solo status...

...by THEN, I could have USED a HAND.


I wouldn't have been ABLE to BUY a second witness if I'd TRIED.



BUT I would've bet my PENSION that the "monsters" my witness spotted were BROADWAY, BROOKLYN and LEXINGTON.

I KNEW it wasn't a GOOD sign when I saw that they WEREN'T THERE.

So I headed up to their CLOCK TOWER at SUNDOWN to talk to them.



But, like I said, there was nothing I could do but WAIT.

I wouldn't find out what was going on at DRACON'S FENT-HOUSE till much LATER.

-- LIKE I SAID, WID WINGS AN' A TAIL. IT WASN'T DERE YESTERDAY.

AN' IT WAS WEARIN' DIS.

SOUNDS JUST LIKE ONE OF THOSE MONSTERS THAT ATTACKED ME IN THAT WARE-HOUSE. *

*IN GARGOYLES TV EPISODE #9: "DEADLY FORCE"! --HILDY

YUH WANT ME TO--

NO.

NEXT: RUDE AWAKENING

WRITTEN IN STONE

c/o Marvel Entertainment Group 387 Park Avenue South New York, NY 10016

Please include your name, age, and address, though we will gladly withhold that information upon request.

HILDY MESNIK
Editor

LISA ZAMPELLA
Assistant Editor

Dear GARGOYLES,

Congratulations on your first issue! I've been anticipating it ever since last summer's San Diego Comic Convention when the giant Goliath statue was unveiled! The TV show is excellent and I didn't know how you would top it, but you did! Marvel selected an unexpected, but superb, art team and I look forward to many, many issues!

Thomas Lawrence
Palm Springs, CA

Thanks for the kind words, Thomas. The GARGOYLES TV show is total quality and a tough act to follow, so we appreciate your vote of confidence!

Dear Written in Stone,

Man! What a great high-flying issue you guys put out for GARGOYLES #1! The cover literally stood out on the stands. I thought the Madureira/Palmiotti cover was incredible and the inside art by Conner/Saichann was unbelievable. This book will make Amanda Conner the new hot artist of 1995! Where has she been hiding? Well, until Goliath fights Goliath in the AVENGERS, make mine Marvel/Disney!

Melvin Coffin
Brooklyn, NY

Amanda hasn't been hiding anywhere! She has enhanced the pages of many a MARVEL book, including EXCALIBUR, BARBIE and BARBIE FASHION, G.I. JOE, and for another publisher Soulsearchers and Company. And there's more to come in '95 with the monthly GARGOYLES comic, and ROCK VIDEO GIRLS from Marvel Music. Amanda flexes her mighty pencil art in the pages of GARGOYLES and we couldn't be happier!

Dear Written in Stone,

I watch GARGOYLES every week on TV and like it better than Batman and X-MEN. I wish it was on every day. I love how the cover to the comic was like 3-D and I like how all the special effects inside - like the ray gun blasts and stuff - were all done with color. It was really cool. I don't usually like Disney stuff, but this is so totally radical! Keep up the great work!

Ra'shan Williams
Washington, DC

Thanks for the good words, Ra'shan, but don't be so quick to dismiss the other Disney/Marvel titles! They're all fun comics produced by the same editorial team that brings you GARGOYLES!

Dear Written in Stone,

Too often, comics adapting TV shows can be pretty

schlocky, but you should be commended on the artistic team collected for the GARGOYLES comic. One of the best moves was getting someone involved in the TV show on the book and writer Marty Pasko also has some impressive comic book credits. Amanda Conner and Alberto Saichann were good choices for the art team as they have a good grasp of the animated characters set in a realistic setting. The colors of Greg Wright set the dark mood perfectly and what more can be said of John Costanza? I must've read hundreds of comics lettered by him, making the stories all the more enjoyable. Looks like you've got another happy customer!

Gabriel Garcia
Taos, NM

Glad to hear it, Gabriel! Nothing beats having a well-known title AND a very talented creative team like we do on GARGOYLES!

Dear GARGOYLES,

G is for the GREAT story by Marty Pasko; A is for the AWESOME art by Amanda Conner and Alberto Saichann; R is for the RIGHT-EOUS color by Greg Wright;

G is for the GAL editors (Hildy and Lisa) who

put this

book

together; O is

for the OUTRAGEOUS cover by Madureira and Palmiotti; Y is for "YES, I'll buy every issue!"; L is for the fantastic LETTERING by John Costanza; E is for EVERYONE who will love this book; S is for the sales of which I hope you have a million; #1 is how I rate the whole first issue! Put 'em all together and you have GARGOYLES #1!

Darcy Valotte
Knoxville, TN

T is for the TONS of mail we got; H is for the HOPE that you enjoy every issue released; A is for the A+ rating we got from the fans; N is for all the NICE reviews; K is for the obvious KNOWLEDGE our fans pack; S is for SEE you next issue! Put them all together and we have to say THANKS!

NEXT ISSUE:

"Rude Awakening" Moved during the day from his perch of the night before, Broadway awakens to find himself lost on Long Island, unable to find his way home. Which wouldn't be so bad ... except that he holds the key piece of evidence in a case Elisa has less than 12 hours to solve!

